

108 Forms of Lord Narasimha

The 74 forms of Lord Narasimha as described in the Fourth Chapter of the Sudarshana Kalpa from the Vihagendra Samhita of Pancharatra Agama, and Papanca-sara-samgraha. Further continued from 75 till 108 – other prominent forms in other literatures like Isvara Samhita, Sesha Samhita, etc... Further, there are several types of Narasimha Saligrama Shilas were listed in the Vedic literatures, that is listed along with their markings.

Sl. No	Form	Description	Reference
1	Svayambhū-nṛsimhaḥ	Self-manifested deity of Lord Narasimha	Vihagendra Samhita
2	Dhyāna-nṛsimhaḥ	Meditative form	Vihagendra Samhita
3	Mokṣa-nṛsimhaḥ	Granter of liberation	Vihagendra Samhita
4	Vijaya-nṛsimhaḥ	Victorious form	Vihagendra Samhita
5	Chatra-nṛsimhaḥ	Seated under a parasol of the five-hooded serpent	Vihagendra Samhita
6	Dīrgha-nṛsimhaḥ	Tall or extended form	Vihagendra Samhita
7	Dṛpta-nṛsimhaḥ	Proud or fierce	Vihagendra Samhita
8	Virūpa-nṛsimhaḥ	Dreadful or Terrifying form	Vihagendra Samhita
9	Pūrṇa-nṛsimhaḥ	Complete form	Vihagendra Samhita
10	Abdhi-nṛsimhaḥ	One who resides in or emerged from the ocean or related to sea	Vihagendra Samhita
11	Andha-nṛsimhaḥ	Blinding radiance	Vihagendra Samhita
12	Jayalakṣmī-nṛsimhaḥ	With Lakṣmī, the victorious	Vihagendra Samhita
13	Lakṣmī-nṛsimhaḥ	Accompanied with Goddess Lakṣmī	Vihagendra Samhita

14	Yoga-nṛsimhaḥ (Yogesvara-nṛsimhaḥ)	In yogic posture or meditative form - Four arms and three eyes - A well-known form is that of the Yoga-narasimha, where he is seated upon a lotus seat in the typical yogic posture, with the two legs held up, crossing each other and with the feet closed together but facing opposite directions, and with a band securing the position of the legs. The form has three eyes and four arms. The normal hands, resting on the knees are stretched out. The upper arms hold the characteristic emblems of chakra and sankha.	Vihagendra Samhita
15	Ayoga-nṛsimhaḥ (Ayogesvara-nṛsimhaḥ)	Beyond yoga	Vihagendra Samhita
16	Dīpta-nṛsimhaḥ	Shining or blazing	Vihagendra Samhita
17	Adhi-nṛsimhaḥ	Supreme Narasimha	Vihagendra Samhita
18	Puṣṭi-nṛsimhaḥ	Nourisher, strong form	Vihagendra Samhita
19	Pramāthi-nṛsimhaḥ	Overpowering foes	Vihagendra Samhita
20	Jvālā-nṛsimhaḥ	Blazing flames which surround the head of the Lord	Vihagendra Samhita
21	Ugra-nṛsimhaḥ	Terribly fierce	Vihagendra Samhita
22	Aghora-nṛsimhaḥ	Beyond fear - Five-faced, five-headed is the personification of His power of dissolution or re-absorption.	Vihagendra Samhita
23	Vidāraṇa-nṛsimhaḥ	The tearing one or Ripping open the belly of the demon	Vihagendra Samhita
24	Ahobila-nṛsimhaḥ	Resides in Cave	Vihagendra Samhita
25	Stambha-nṛsimhaḥ	Emerging from the pillar	Vihagendra Samhita
26	Mahāsiddha-nṛsimhaḥ (Mahā-nṛsimhaḥ)	Great accomplished form	Vihagendra Samhita

27	Pātāla-nṛsimhaḥ	<p>Seated on Garuda and Dwelling in the netherworld - This form is said to be seated with the left knee raised and the right resting upon Garuda, who is four-armed, keeping the two normal hands on the chest in anjali; an act of supplication and carrying Adi-sesa in the two upper hands. It is the presence of Adi-sesa, whose residence is Patala, that has given the name to this form of Narasimha. Adisesa must be shown as spreading his many hoods on Narasimha's head as a parasol.</p> <p>Narasimha must be shown as placing his right foot on Garuda, but his left foot, bent, must be placed on the body of Adi-sesa. He has four or eight arms.</p>	Vihagendra Samhita
28	Vakṣo-nṛsimhaḥ	Emerged from the chest	Vihagendra Samhita
29	Ananta-nṛsimhaḥ	Infinite form	Vihagendra Samhita
30	Grahana-nṛsimhaḥ	Catching hold of the demon	Vihagendra Samhita
31	Pramana-nṛsimhaḥ	Embodiment of divine truth	Vihagendra Samhita
32	Āveśa-nṛsimhaḥ	Possessed form or Picture of frenzy	Vihagendra Samhita
33	Adhāsana-nṛsimhaḥ	Sitting downward form	Vihagendra Samhita
34	Attahasa-nṛsimhaḥ	One who roars horribly and majestically strides across to destroy evil	Vihagendra Samhita
35	Yogananda-nṛsimhāḥ	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - One who is in Yogic posture with bliss, also gives bliss to his devotees	Vihagendra Samhita

36	Chatravata-nṛsimhāḥ	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - One who has his Chatra (Umberala) as Vata tree (Banyan tree), gave benediction to "Aaha" and "Ooho" Gandavaras	Vihagendra Samhita
37	Karanja-nṛsimhāḥ	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - One who resides below the Karanja tree - Combined form of Narasimha and Rama	Vihagendra Samhita
38	Kroda-nṛsimhāḥ	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - Lord blazing with anger - Varaha Narasimha form (boar-faced Nṛsimha)	Vihagendra Samhita
39	Bhargava-nṛsimhāḥ	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - One who gave darshan to Sage Parashurama in a very fierce form as requested by the sage.	Vihagendra Samhita
40	Vira Narasimha	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - Lord in a fighting form - The heroic or valiant Narasimha	Papanca-sara-samgraha and Vihagendra Samhita
41	Vilamba Narasimha	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - Narasimha, who is very patient	Papanca-sara-samgraha and Vihagendra Samhita

42	Kopa Narasimha	Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - enraged or wrathful Narasimha	Papanca-sara-samgraha and Vihagendra Samhita
43	Sudarshana Narasimha	Holding Chakra in all of his four hands enshrined behind Sudarshana Chakra - Nine-fold expansions (Nava-vyūha-nṛsimhāḥ) - The form of Yoga-narasimha is involved in the Sudarsana motif, located in the centre of the six- angled figure surrounded by a flaming circle is called Chakra-narasimha and holds chakra in all his four hands.	Papanca-sara-samgraha and Vihagendra Samhita
44	Cakra-nṛsimhaḥ	Holds only discus in his hands	Vihagendra Samhita
45	Uttara-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the North	Vihagendra Samhita
46	Purva-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the East	Vihagendra Samhita
47	Daksina-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the South	Vihagendra Samhita
48	Pascima-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the West	Vihagendra Samhita
49	Isanya-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the Northeast (Īśānya)	Vihagendra Samhita

50	Agneya-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the Southeast (Fire direction)	Vihagendra Samhita
51	Naitrya-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the Southwest	Vihagendra Samhita
52	Vayavya-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha of the Northwest (Wind direction)	Vihagendra Samhita
53	Urdhva-nṛsimhāḥ	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha above (Zenith direction)	Vihagendra Samhita
54	Dhara-nṛsimhāḥ (Adhah-nṛsimhāḥ)	Dasadisa-nṛsimhaḥ (Ten directions - Narasimha) - Narasimha below (Nadir)	Vihagendra Samhita
55	Caṇḍa-nṛsimhaḥ	The Terribly Wrathful Narasimha	Vihagendra Samhita
56	Samhara-nṛsimhaḥ	Killing the demon	Vihagendra Samhita
57	Prasāda-nṛsimhaḥ	Gracious form of protecting Prahlada (and the form is known as Prahlada-varada)	Vihagendra Samhita
58	Brahma-nṛsimhaḥ	Embodiment of Supreme Brahman	Vihagendra Samhita
59	Viṣṇu-nṛsimhaḥ	Fierce form of Lord Viṣṇu	Vihagendra Samhita
60	Raudra-nṛsimhaḥ	Embodiment of Raudra (Wrathful)	Vihagendra Samhita
61	Mātaṇḍa-nṛsimhaḥ	glowing with the effulgence of the sun	Vihagendra Samhita

62	Candra-bhairava-nṛsimhaḥ	One who terrifies the wicked, but glowing with the effulgence and soothing as the Moon to His devotees	Vihagendra Samhita
63	Pr̥thivī-nṛsimhaḥ	Earth embodiment	Vihagendra Samhita
64	Vāyu-nṛsimhaḥ	Air embodiment (also known as Pavana Narasimha)	Vihagendra Samhita
65	Ākāśa-nṛsimhaḥ	Ether embodiment	Vihagendra Samhita
66	Jvalanadhara-nṛsimhaḥ	Fire embodiment	Vihagendra Samhita
67	Amṛtāśya-nṛsimhaḥ	Water embodiment	Vihagendra Samhita
68	Ātma-nṛsimhaḥ	Innermost indweller	Vihagendra Samhita
69	Satya-nṛsimhaḥ	Embodiment of truth	Vihagendra Samhita
70	Yajna-nṛsimhaḥ	Personification of sacrifice (yajña)	Vihagendra Samhita
71	Annadāna-nṛsimhaḥ	who nourishes all beings	Vihagendra Samhita
72	Prabhāsakara-nṛsimhaḥ	Effulgent one who dispels darkness and ignorance	Vihagendra Samhita
73	Viśvarūpa-nṛsimhaḥ	who manifests the entire universe as His body (viśvarūpa)	Vihagendra Samhita
74	Tritāra-nṛsimhaḥ	who is the liberator of the three worlds or savior from the threefold miseries	Vihagendra Samhita

Other forms - Even though some are sub-caterogy of above forms, still, it is listed here as it as uniqueness from the above main form.

75	Ghora-nṛsimhaḥ	Terrifying form of Narasimha	
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76	Asta-Mukha- Gandabherunda-nṛsimhaḥ	A rare form of Narasimha, who is seen in the act of vanquishing Sarabha. This form has eight heads, the heads of the mythical two-headed gandabherunda, lion (simha), tiger (vyaghra), horse (haya), boar (kreda viz. varaha), monkey (vanara, viz. Hanuman), the chief of birds (garuda) and bear (bhaliika). There are thirty-two arms, carrying carrying conch-shell, discus etc. The dhyana-sloka, however, does not give details of the weapons the form carries. The major head is that of lion (mahasimha), and the entire form is described as lustrous like a crore of suns ('koti-surya-sama- prabham'), and terrific like the world-devouring fire (kalanala-sama--prabham). The iconic representation also includes Laksmi sitting on his lap.	
77	Pucha-nṛsimhaḥ	<p>Isvara-samhita mentions another form of Narasimha with only two hands and a prominent tail (hence called Puccha-narasimha).</p> <p>Here, he is visualized as having blood-shot eyes (rakta-locana), both of his hands pressed against the ground (karau bhumau pratisthapyā) and is shown as loudly lashing the ground with his tail (asphotya bhumau langulam). He is terrible in aspect (sarva-loka-bhayankara).</p>	Isvara-samhita

78	Meru-nṛsimhaḥ	<p>Isvara-samhita (4, 76-81) describes a form of Narasimha with five heads ('pancanana-susobhita', 'panca-vaktra') and ten arms. There is a head facing each of the four directions, and the fifth head is on top and is brilliant like the blazing fire ('urdhvam agni-nibham mukham').</p> <p>The heads facing east, west, south and north (purvadi-cottarantam) are said to shine like moon (viz. white), collyrium (black), gold (yellow) and red-coloured insect (indra-gopa) respectively (candranjana-suvarṇabham indra gopa-nibham tatha).</p> <p>The hands carry rosary, mace, lotus, conch, bow, ploughshare, discus, arrow, gesture of boon-bestowal and sword.</p> <p>This form of Narasimha is called Meru; ('etam Merur iti khyatam sarva-vydhī-vināsanam').</p>	Isvara-samhita
79	Dvir-astabahu-nṛsimhaḥ (Shodasha Bahu-nṛsimhaḥ)	<p>Sixteen armed Narasimha - The form of Narasimha depicting him in the act of killing the demon Hiranya-kasipu is called Ugra-narasimha. He is depicted as either eight-armed or sixteen-armed. The multiplicity of arms is suggestive of various weapons that increase the ferocity of the deity.</p> <p>The disposition of Narasimha's eight hands is described in Silpa-ratna thus: the two hands on top are shown as holding the intestines, dug out of the demon's body as a garland (tasyantra-mala niskrsya bahu-yugmena), two hands are engaged in ripping open the belly of the demon; the other</p>	

		<p>four hands carry discus, lotus, mace and conch.</p> <p>Sixteen-armed bronze icons (dvir-astabahu) of Narasimha are seen in some of the South Indian temples. Among the sixteen arms, two secure the body of the demon on his left thigh, the right hand holding the legs and the left head of the demon; two engage themselves with their sharp nails in ripping open the belly of the demon; two other hands pull out the intestines from the demon's belly and throw them as a garland around his neck; and one of the hands is about to administer a blow to the demon (chapetika-mudra). The other hands carry various weapons.</p>	
80	Kevala-nṛsimhaḥ	Four armed lone figure Narasimha - Kevala: signifies him as a lone figure, four-armed, seated in easy or yogic posture, bestowing boon or offering protection.	
81	Girija-nṛsimhaḥ	A form with which Lord, stayed in forests on the hills after killing the demon Hiranyakasipu	Isvara-samhita and Category of Ahobila Narasimha and Kevala Narasimha
82	Sthauna (Sthuna)-nṛsimhaḥ	<p>Eight or Sixteen armed - Lord's emergence from the pillar - kevala (or girija) and sthuna (sthauna) (Vihagendra samhita). Vaikhanasagama, which distinguishes between Kevala-narasimha and Sthauna-narasimha points out that the former is benign while the latter is terrific. Sthauna: signifies Narasimha bursting out of the pillar (sthuna) of Hiranya-kasipu's palace. He is ferocious in aspect, eight or sixteen armed and is shown as fighting with the demon or as ripping open his belly; he stands or dances, struts about or sits; but the</p>	Isvara-samhita, Category of Stambha Narasimha and Vaikhanasagama

		demon is shown along with him; or to calm his fury, Laksmi, Prahlada or Garuda are also shown with him.	
83	Svatantra-nṛsimhaḥ	Alone - Similar to Kevala	
84	Devi-sahita-nṛsimhaḥ	Accompanied by consorts - Devi-sahita (accompanied by consorts). In this category, it is usual that Laksmi alone is shown, but there are icons where both Laksmi and Bhu-devi (earth-goddess) are shown on his sides. When Prahlada is also present, the form of Narasimha is known as Prahlada-varada and is included under the 'devi-sahita' category.	Category of Lakshmi Narasimha
85	Panaka-nṛsimhaḥ	Open Mouth - The form of Narasimha in the temple on top of a hill at Mangala-giri. It is one of the thirty-two shrines celebrated for Narasimha. The name of this form is derived from the offering of jaggery-water (panaka) to the divinity. The icon here is distinguished by a gaping mouth into which the jaggery-water is poured.	
86	Varaha-nṛsimhaḥ	Eight hands and discus in every hand - Two headed (Varaha and Narasimha) - Varaha-narasimha is a composite form involving the Varaha and Narasimha incarnations of Lord Vishnu, assumed in order to free the world from the terror caused by the two demon-brothers, Hiranyaksa and Hiranyakasipu. Sesa-samhita describes that this form is fierce (ugra-vigraha) as well as benevolent (saumyam) with eight hands in each of which a discus is held.	
87	Yanaka-nṛsimhaḥ	Riding/Mounted Narasimha mounted either on Garuda or on Ananta-Shesha Naga	

88	Yogananda Lakshmi-nṛsimhaḥ	A very rare form combining both Yoga and Bhoga aspects - Both Yoga posture and Lakshmi on lap - While it is usual for Yoga-narasimha to be alone, sometimes Lakshmi is also shown, seated on his left knee.	
89	Guha-nṛsimhaḥ	Hidden Narasimha	Category of Ahobila Narasimha
90	Chencheta-nṛsimhaḥ	A Hari-Hara aspect.	
91	Tandava-nṛsimhaḥ (Nritta-nṛsimhaḥ)	The dancing Narasimha form.	
92	Shesha-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord seated on Adishesha	Worshipped in Orissa
93	Avesha-nṛsimhaḥ	A frenzied form	
94	Mahapurna-nṛsimhaḥ	Five faces (each with 3 eyes), garland of entrails, yajnopavita made of a serpent	Category of Meru Narasimha
95	Varaha-Lakshmi-nṛsimhaḥ	Mouth of Varaha. Lakshmi on lap	
96	Prahladanugraha-nṛsimhaḥ	The form blessing Prahlada with His hand	
97	Shayana-nṛsimhaḥ	Reclining position	
98	Raghava Simha	Lord Rama in furious mood	
99	Yadava Simha	Lord Krishna in furious mood	
100	Marjara Kesari	Lord Narasimha with Cat face	
101	Vygra-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord Narasimha with Tiger face	
102	Prahlada-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord with Prahlada	Category of Prasāda-nṛsimhaḥ
103	Santha-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord in a pacified serene mood	
104	Astha Bahu-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord with eight hands killing Hiranyakashipu	Category of Ugra-nṛsimhaḥ
105	Sahasra Bahu-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord with Thousand hands	
106	Adbhuta Kesari	Wonderful Narasimha	

107	Samputa-nṛsimhaḥ	Lord Narasimha in Samputa (enshrined in Box) - Kukke Subramanya Matha	
108	Ghati-nṛsimhaḥ	Enshrined along with Demigod Skanda in the same deity	

Narasimha Saligramas - As mentioned in Vedic Literatures

1	Kapila-narasimha Saligrama	Has three or five bindus, two large chakras in the middle, prominent linear marks, teeth-like projections in the large mukha, circular in shape and tawny in colour like jaggery or lac.
2	Lakshmi-narasimha Saligrama	(Five Different Sub-form or divisions are there) - Has a large mukha, two chakras at the left side, three or five bindus and a vanamala.
3	Vidarana-narasimha Saligrama	Tawny body, red dots, Has a very large mukha endowed with teeth-like projections and two chakras inside it.
4	Sarvatomukha-narasimha Saligrama	Golden in colour, has multiple mukhas and seven chakras.
5	Patala-narasimha Saligrama	Has multiple openings, multiple chakras (three at the dvāra and ten at the sides) and multiple colours.
6	Akasha-narasimha Saligrama	Has a large mukha and an elevated chakra in the middle. To be worshipped only by monks.

7	Rakshasa-narasimha Saligrama	Golden in colour, has a large mukha and multiple holes.
8	Jiva-narasimha Saligrama	Has two large mukhas, two chakras and an elevated front.
9	Adhomukha-narasimha Saligrama	Has three chakras, one inside, other on the top surface and another on the sides. Three openings.
10	Jvala-narasimha Saligrama	(Three Different Sub-form or divisions are there) - Has a small mukha with flames near the mouth, two chakras and a vanamala.
11	Maha-narasimha Saligrama	Has two chakras and very beautiful, prominent linear marks.
12	Aghora-narasimha Saligrama	Fierce, wide-mouthed with fangs and large chakras; terrifying in aspect
13	Damshtrikarala-narasimha Saligrama	Ferocious like a lion, with tree-hollow-like mouth, large fangs, rough features, tawny color, and bright glow.
14	Ugra-narasimha Saligrama	(Four Different Sub-form or divisions are there) - Reddish hue, equal-sized chakras.
15	Mahajwala-narasimha Saligrama	Vast opening, mixed blue and tawny colors; overwhelming in size and fire.
16	Yoga-narasimha Saligrama	Two large chakras at the center, reddish-brown color, signs of concentration around the opening.

17	Yogānanda-narasimha Saligrama	Peaceful yogic bliss; three or five dots, tawny tone, two chakras.
18	Shuddha-narasimha Saligrama	(Ten Different Sub-form or divisions are there) - Massive, round chakras, deep thick opening; elevated front; very clear.
19	Baddhachakra-narasimha Saligrama	Tawny body; chakras bound within the opening.
20	Bhitti-narasimha Saligrama	Wall-like wide opening, left chakra, dotted round form.
21	Hāra-narasimha Saligrama	Small opening, two chakras, Vanamala garland.
22	Bāla-narasimha Saligrama	Small and delicate form; two chakras and a Vanamala; child-like.
23	Kukshi-narasimha Saligrama	Small unclear chakras, big belly, light body, small opening.
24	Vibhishana-narasimha Saligrama	Long fish-like body, big belly, elongated face and elongated chakra.
25	Vidyūjjihva-narasimha Saligrama	Big one, dual opening sharing chakras; greenish tone, two chakras.
26	Vijaya-narasimha Saligrama	Uneven but large chakras at center, tawny color
27	Vivrutāśya-narasimha Saligrama	Wide-open mouth, round and tawny, with left-side chakras.
28	Vakradamshtra-narasimha Saligrama	Curved fangs, golden spots, large face and opening.

